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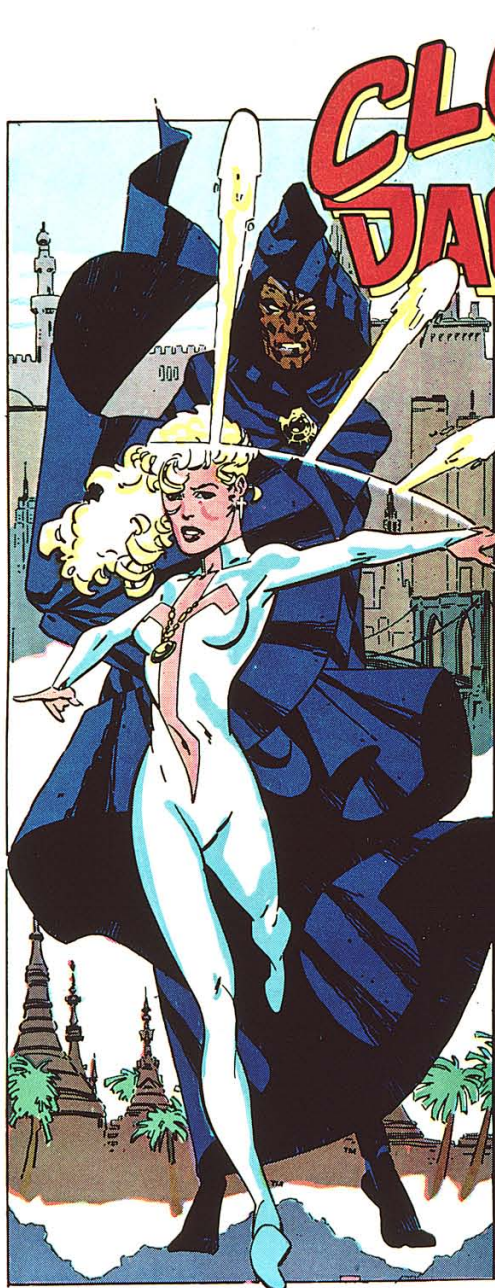
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



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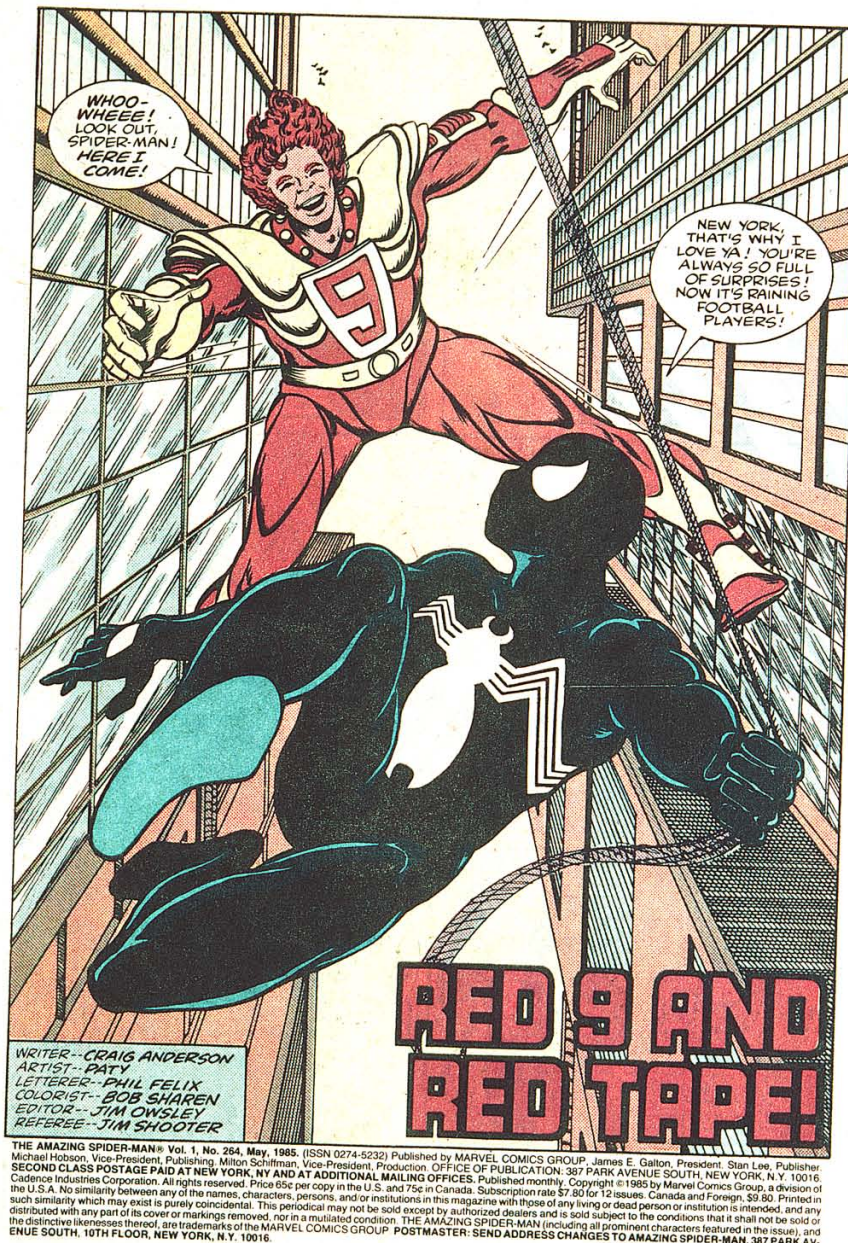
By: Bill Mantlo
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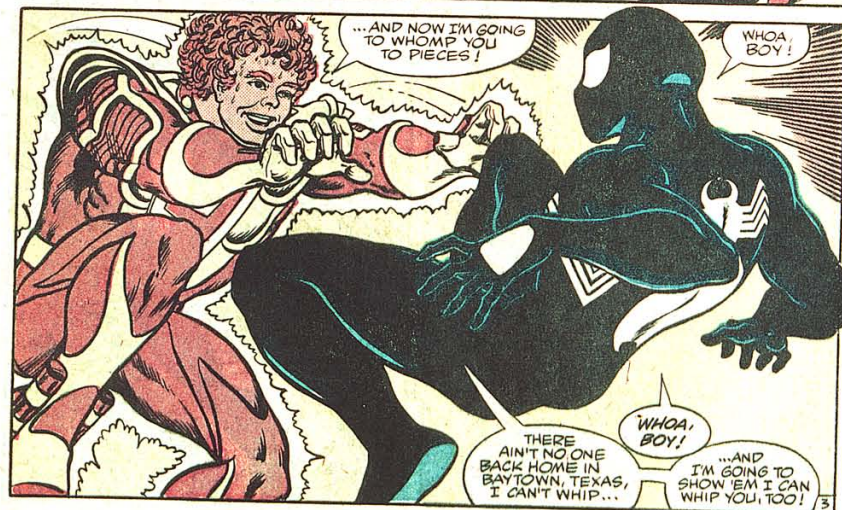
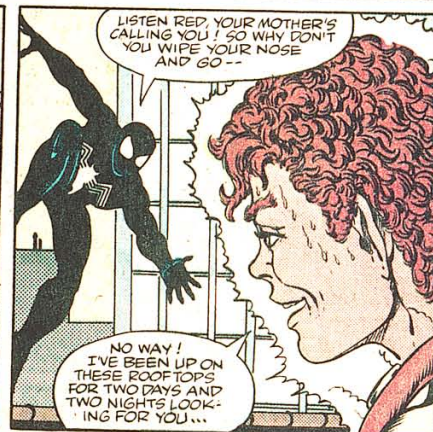
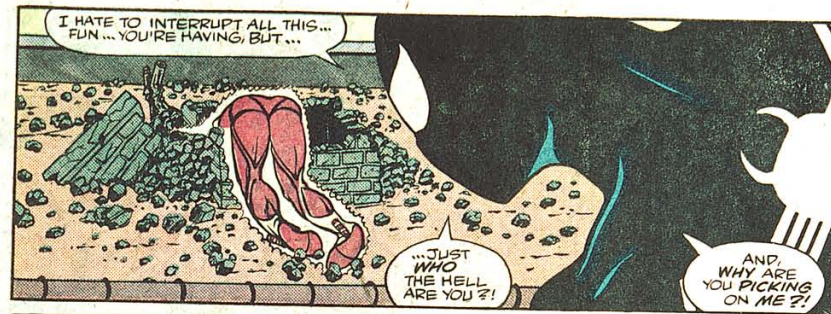
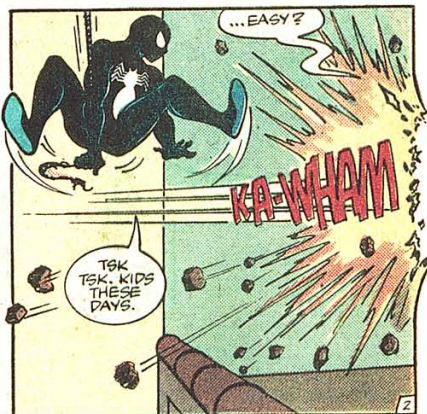
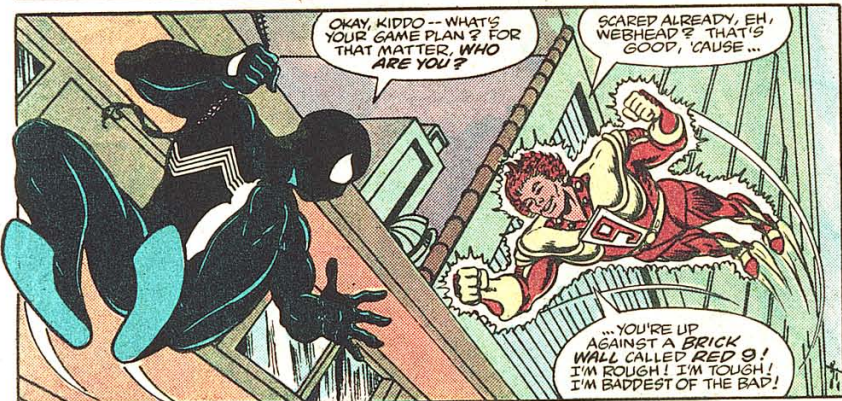
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LOOK OUT,
SPIDER-MAN!
HERE I
COME!

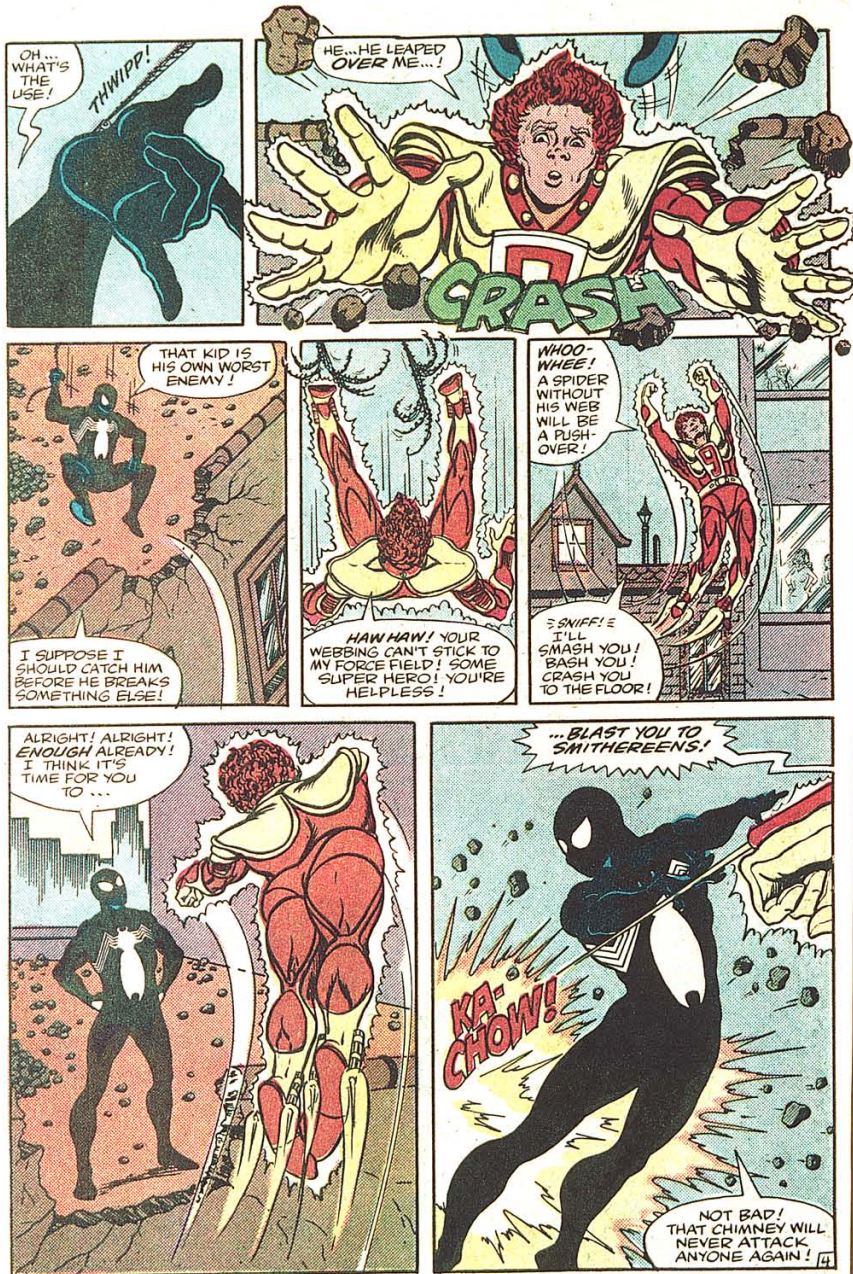
NEW YORK,
THAT'S WHY I
LOVE YA! YOU'RE
ALWAYS SO FULL
OF SURPRISES!
NOW IT'S RAINING
FOOTBALL
PLAYERS!

RED 9 AND RED TAPE!

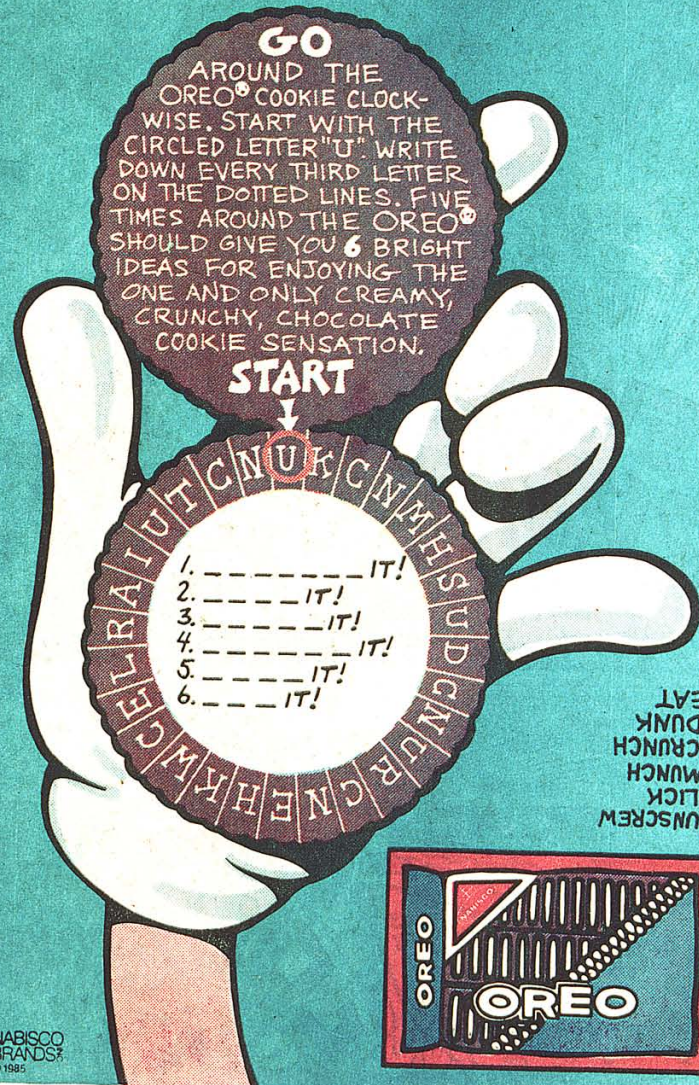
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REFeree--JIM SHOOTER

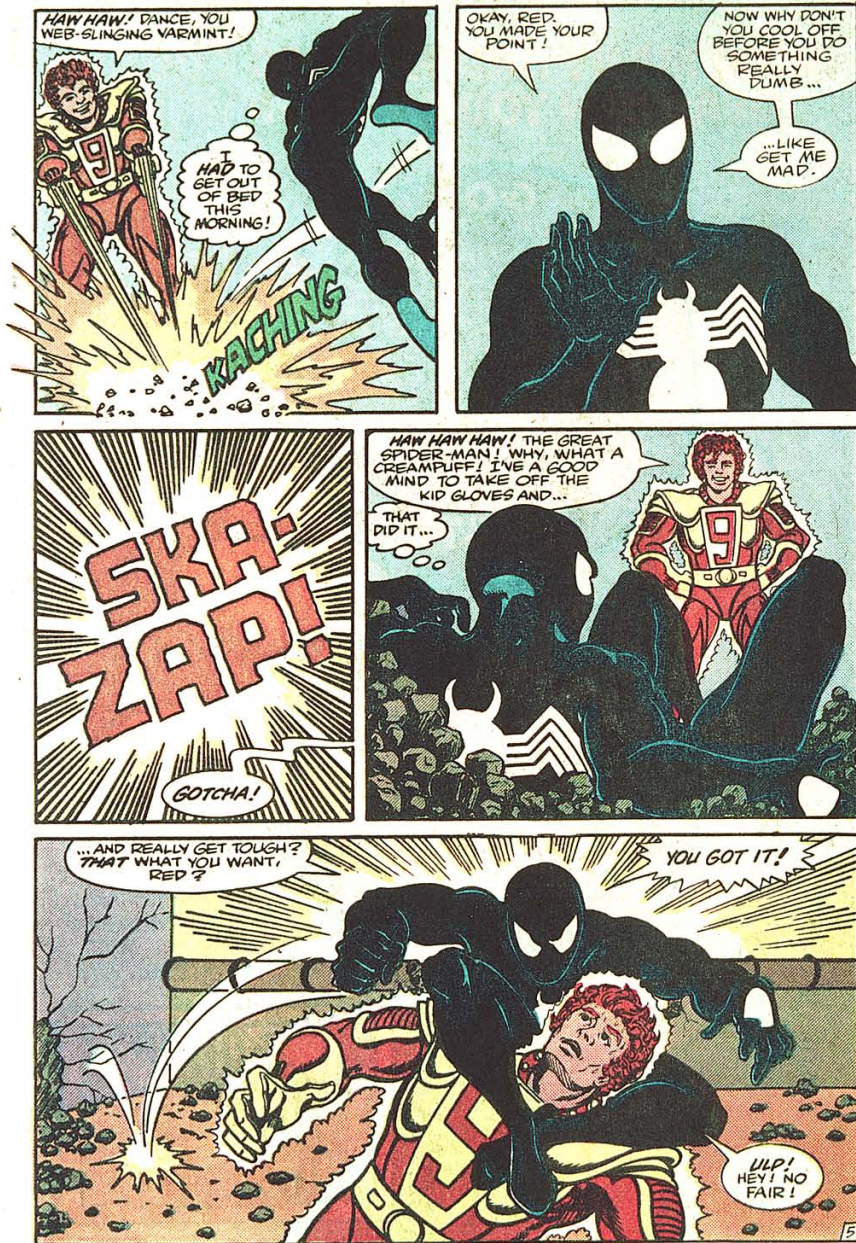
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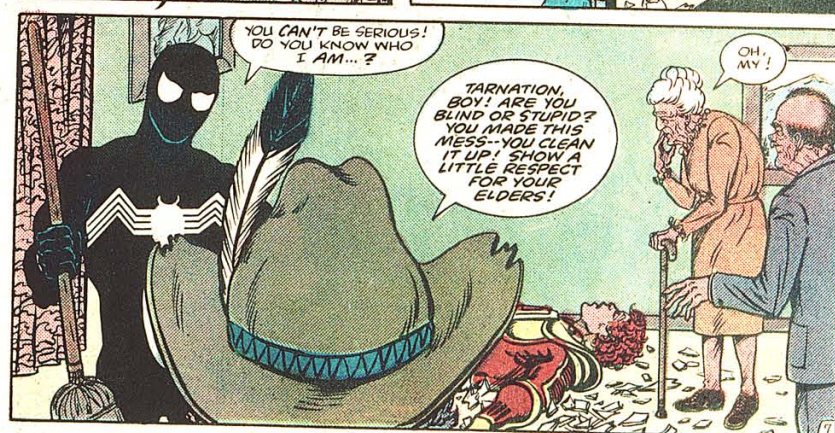
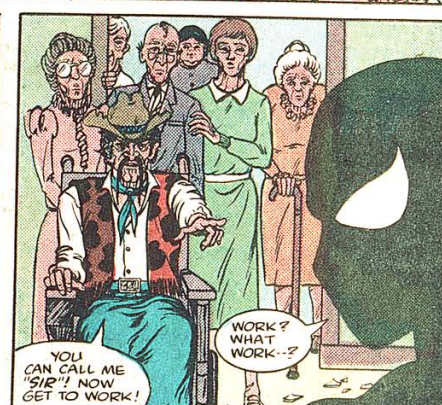
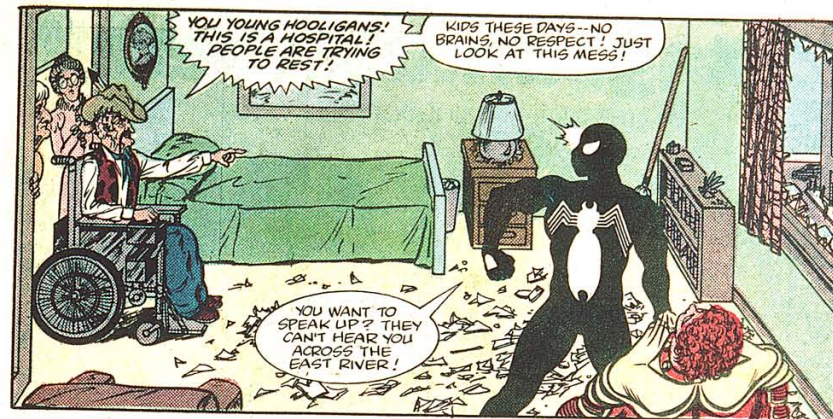
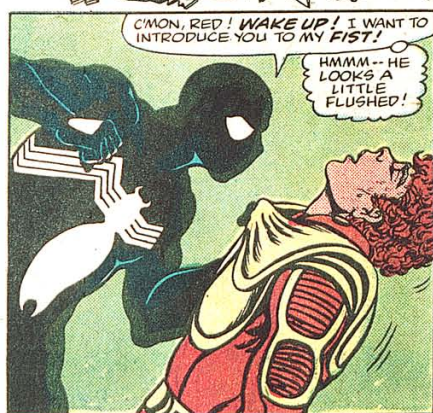
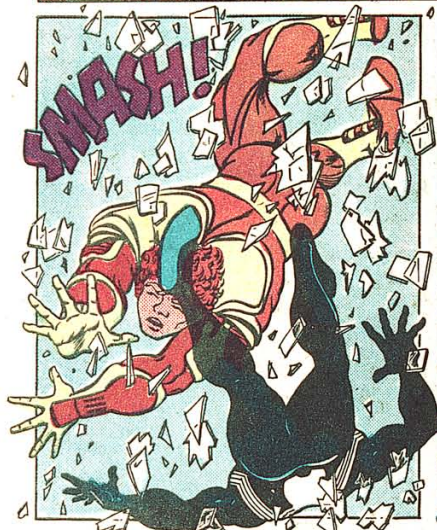
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BUT THIS IS
RIDICULOUS!

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FOR
FALLING
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BONK!

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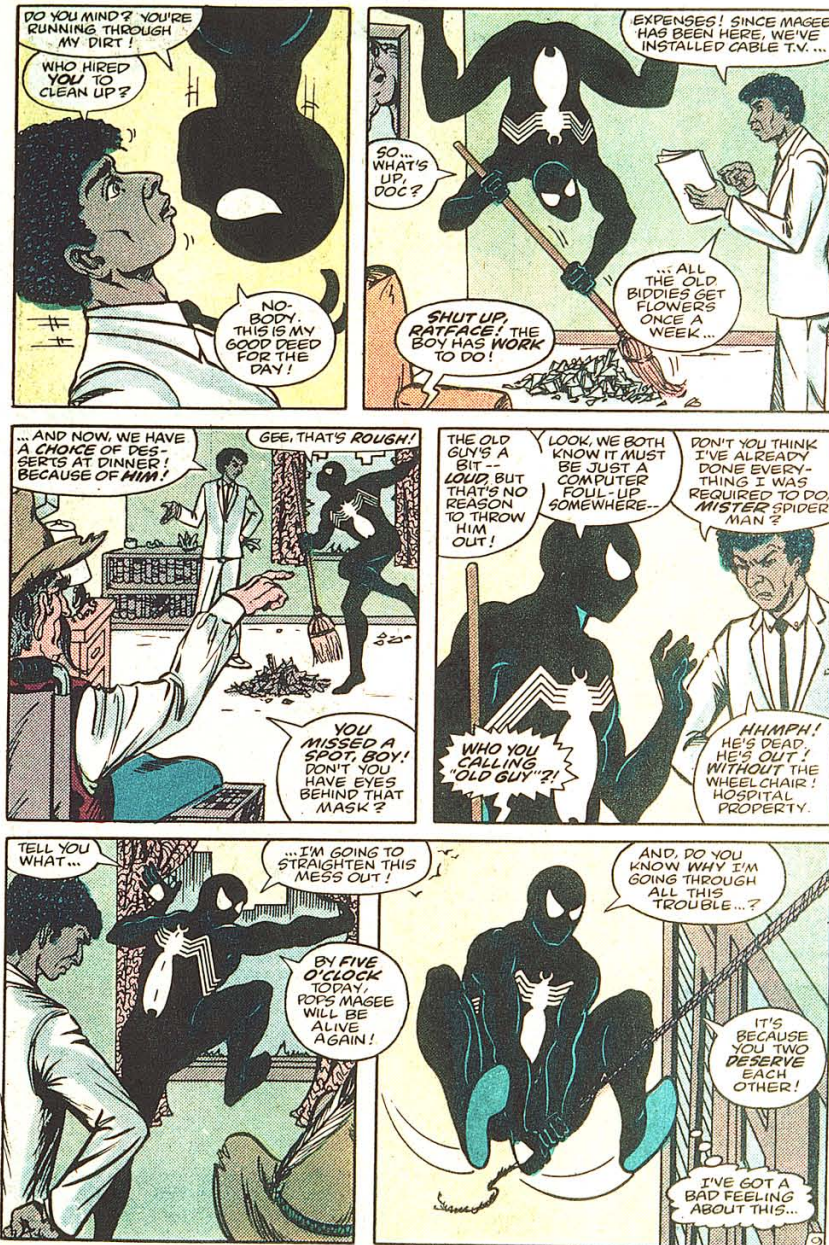
ALL 3 FLAVORS
BONK ME OUT!

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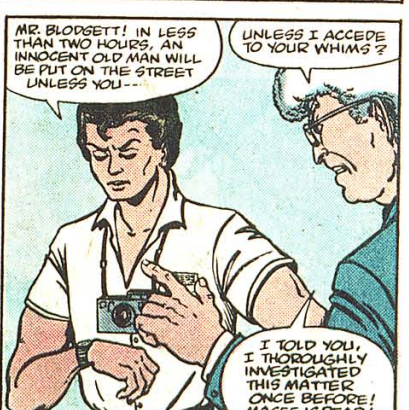
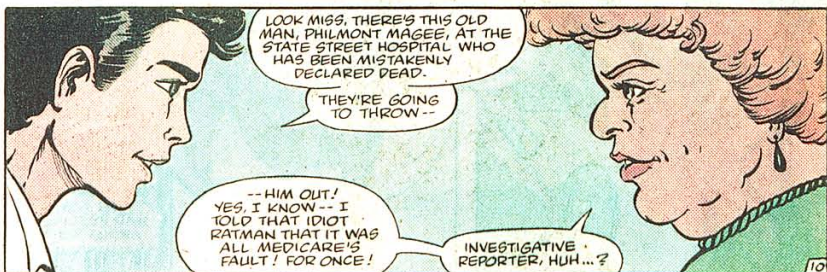
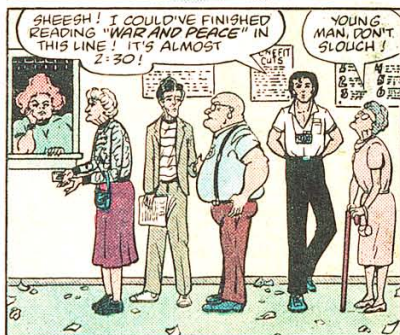
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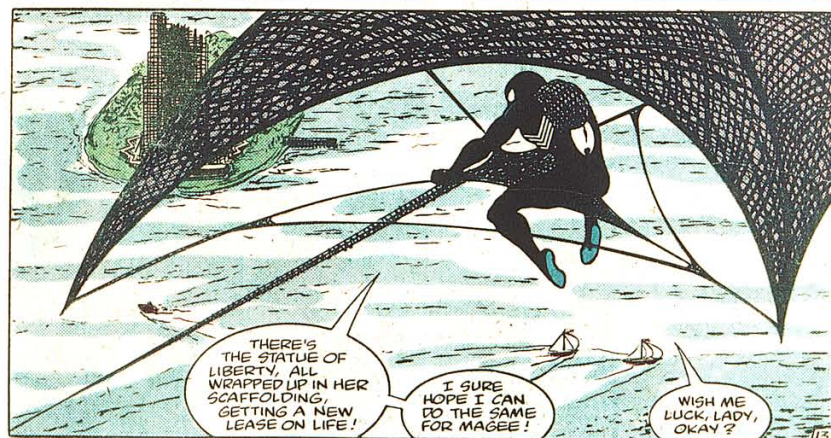
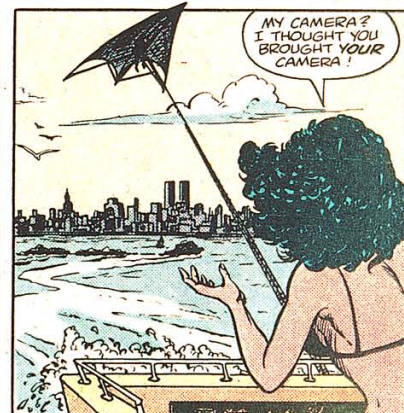
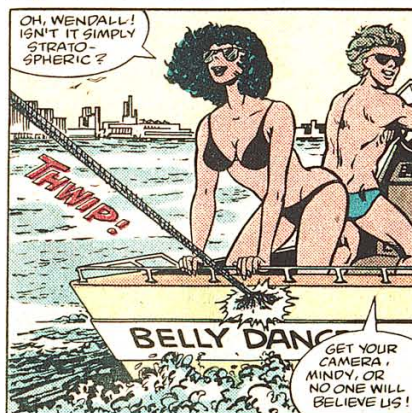
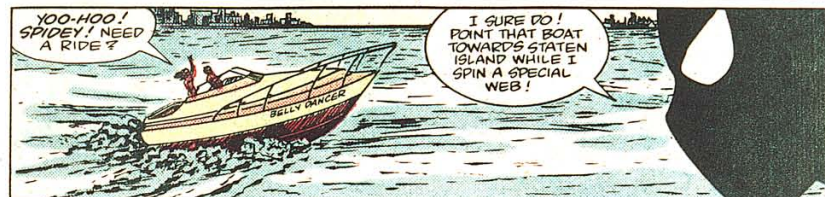
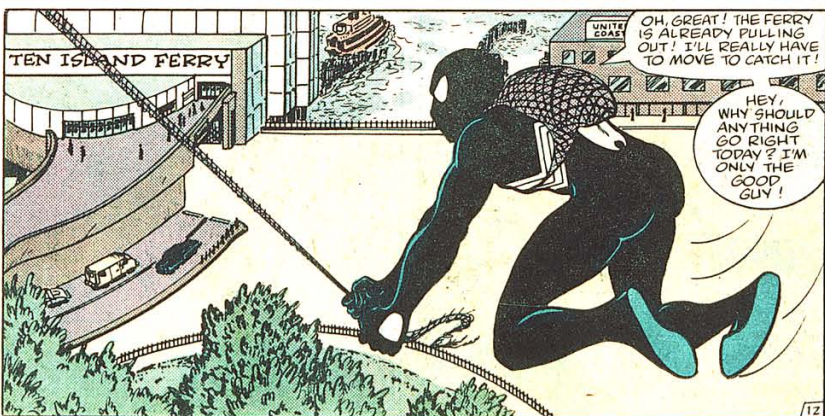
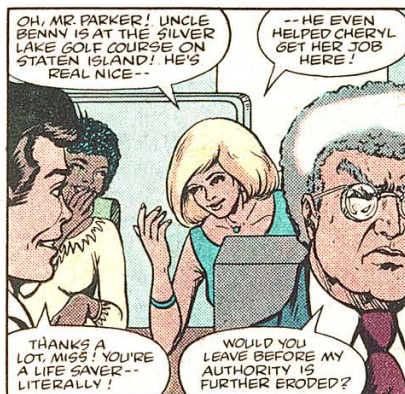
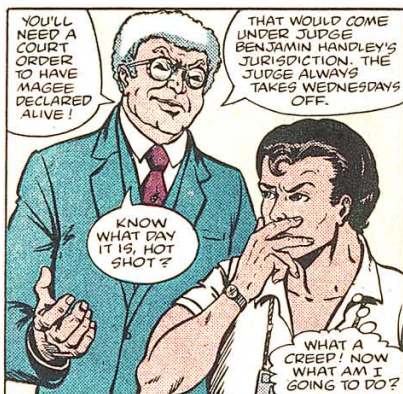
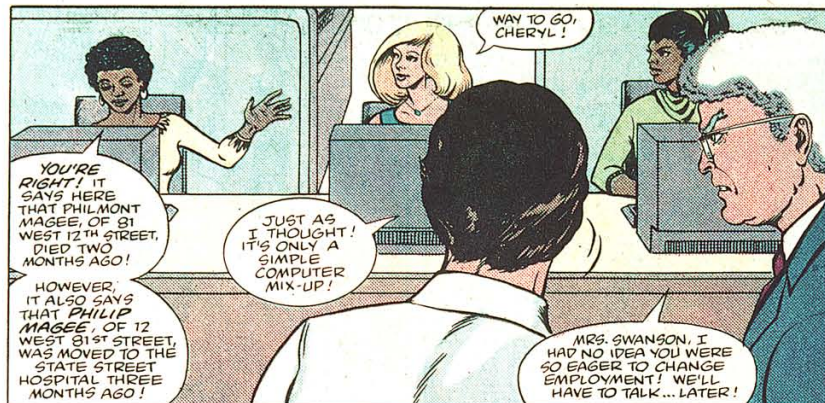
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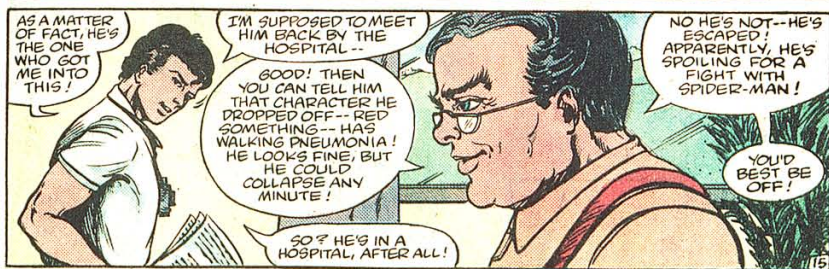
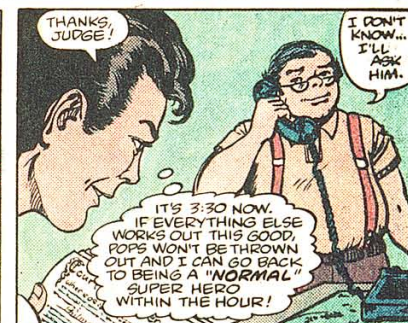
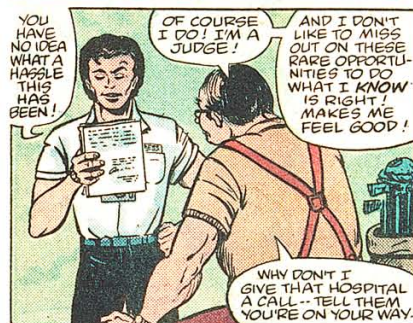
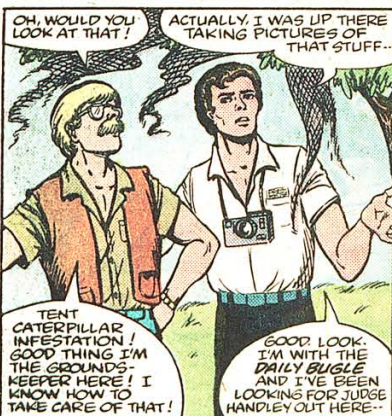
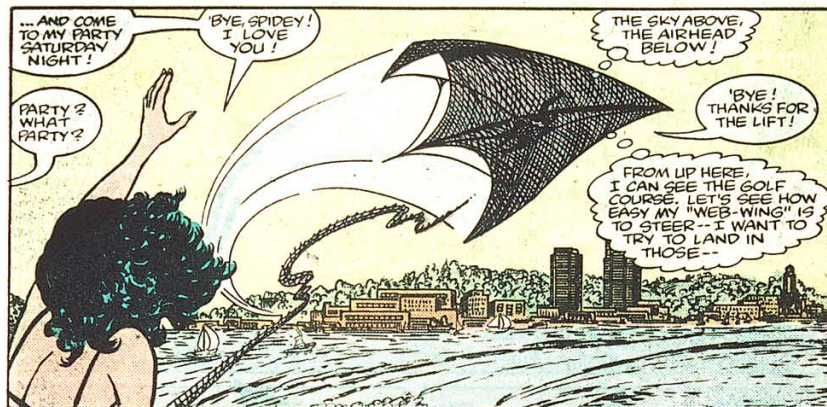
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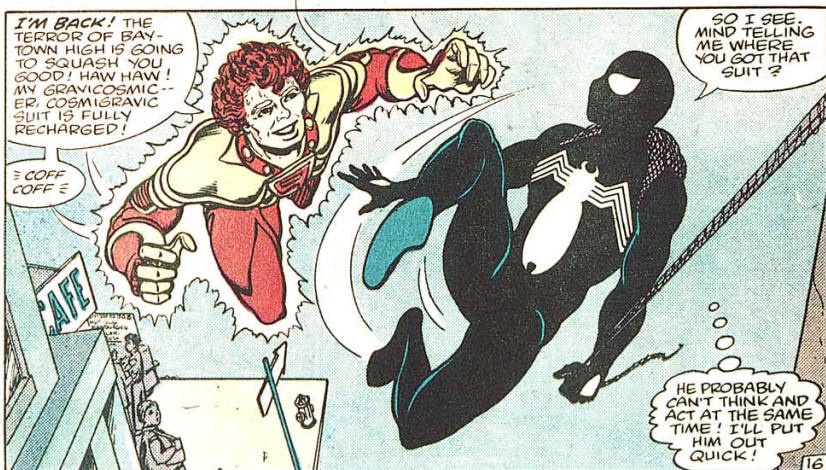
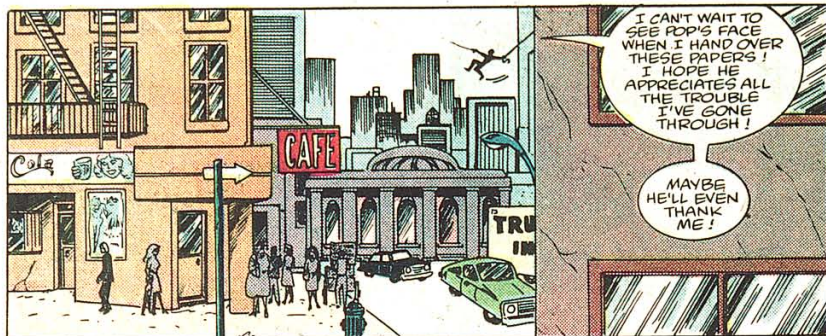


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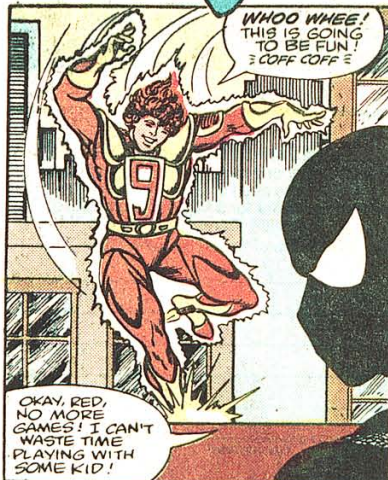
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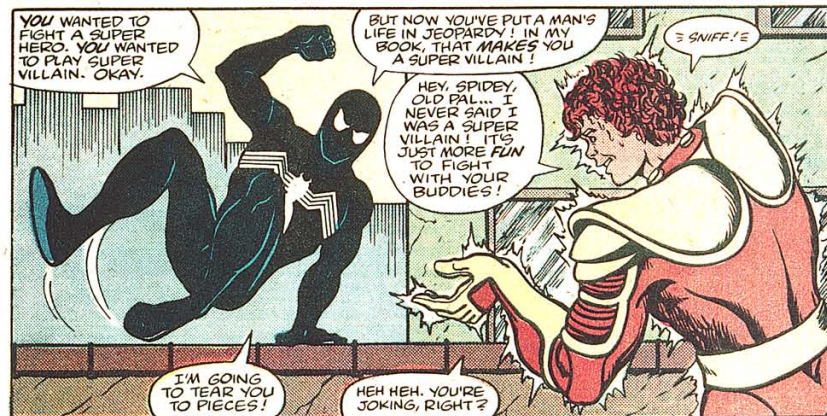
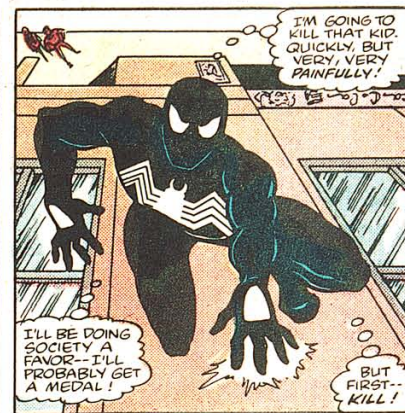
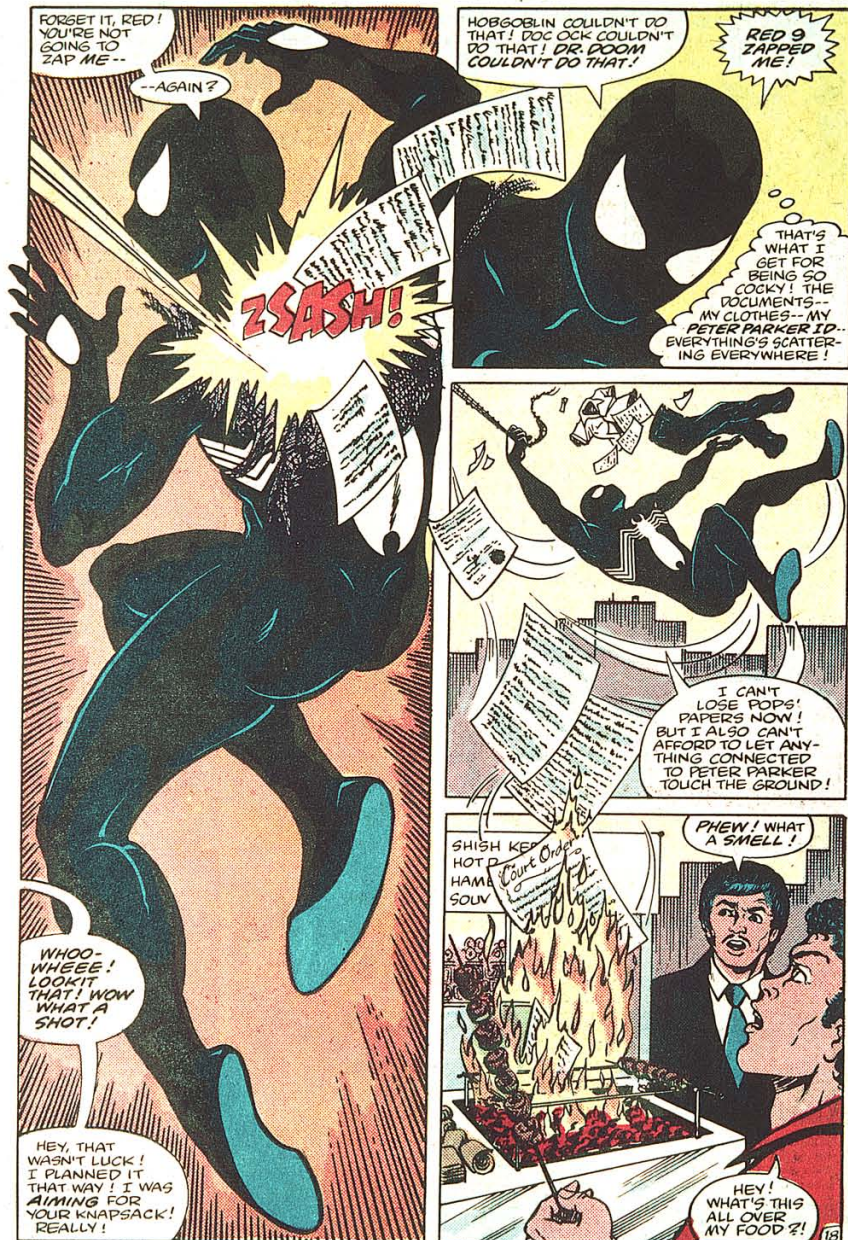
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I'M GETTING OUTTA HERE!

DON'T MAKE ME CHASE YOU, RED!

LAST TIME, HIS SUIT LOST POWER AFTER HE SHOT HIS ENERGY BOLTS ...

LET'S SEE IF MY WEBBING...

--HOLDS!

WAH! NO! HE GOT ME!

NO! NO! NO! LEGGO! C'MON FORCE FIELD! POWER UP!

EEEEYAAAH!

KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

P-LEASE! SNIFF! I'LL BE GOOD! I PROMISE!

THERE'S NO ESCAPE, RED! YOUR SUPER VILLAIN DAYS ARE OVER!

O-OH MOMMA! GULP! WHIMPER!

WITHOUT YOUR SUIT, YOU'RE NOTHING!

WHAT AM I SAYING? WITH YOUR SUIT, YOU'RE NOTHING!

RRRIIP!

NO! DON'T! GAAAAAH!

NOW TO DROP YOU OFF AT THE HOSPITAL, MAKE A PHONE CALL TO THE JUDGE...

THE SUIT! UNCLE STEVE IS GOING TO KILL ME!

...HEAD BACK TO STATEN ISLAND, AND RETURN HERE-- ALL IN HALF AN HOUR!

HEY, I CAN DO IT-- I'M SPIDER-MAN!

Bullpen Bulletins

DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS...

I attended the Dallas Fantasy Fair last weekend, November 23-25, 1984, where as Editor in Chief, I autographed hundreds of Marvel Comics, and, as scripter of *Marvel Super Heroes Secret Wars*, I autographed thousands of copies of that particular limited series, which, he added modestly, is the most successful, best-selling comics series of the last few decades.

Texas is great. Seldom I heard a discouraging word, and skies were not cloudy all day!

SPEAKING OF TEXAS FANS...

There's a Marvel fan club down there called YHAPA made up of enthusiastic young collectors. I hear they're a great bunch. If you're interested in information, write:

YHAPA
641 Tiffany Drive
Richardson, Texas
75081

I don't usually do logs for fan clubs in this column because I get so many requests, but that's how impressed I was with the crew down there. You should have seen their reaction when I announced that we were doing a sequel to *Secret Wars* (starting in April). Wow.

AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT...

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THAT'S ALL FOR NOW...

But check here next month for an important announcement regarding an awards balloting where you have a chance to vote for your favorites!

Hang in there!

Jim Shooter

Jim Shooter

HYPE BOX

STAR COMICS — Marvel's new line of Star Comics does it again for the second month in a row joining Planet Terry and Wally the Wizard are Royal Roy, the Muppet Babies, the Getalong Gang, and, direct from the "Star Wars" saga, the Ewoks! You won't want to miss any of their exciting, fun-filled, all-new first issues! And there's more — the surprise sensation of last year's MARVEL TAIL is now appearing in a whole series of brand-new adventures! That's right, because you demanded it, Peter Porker, the Spectacular Spider-Ham swings into action against Star Comics — there's a galaxy of fun in every issue!

CLOAK AND DAGGER #1 — They've guest-starred in several Marvel comics, they've had their own Limited Series, and

you still want more! Well, thanks to BILL MANTLO, RICK LEONARDI, and TERRY AUSTIN, you're getting more! Cloak and Dagger will be coming at you every other month in their own regular comics series! Join the Creature of Light and the Demon of Darkness as they team up to protect the children of New York from the forces of evil! It's action the way you like it!

ROCKET RACCOON #1 — He is a mammal of many missions in a galaxy that never lets him catch his breath. He must prevent total war, save his true love, and escape the looney bin that is his universe! And that's just for starters! Find out what's been happening to the furry furb since his guest appearance in THE INCREDIBLE HULK — you won't believe your eyes! But you

can believe that BILL MANTLO, MIKE MIGNOLA and AL GORDON have created four fast-paced issues that will knock your paws off!

MOONSHADOW #1 — J.M. DeMATTEIS (writer) and JON J. MUTH (artist) have collaborated on a story which is uniquely suited for the EPIC COMICS line. This beautifully painted fairy tale for the 1980's will be especially appreciated by adults who remember the 1960's. Why? Because this first issue relates the tale of how Sunflower, a 1960's flower child, was kidnapped by aliens and bore a child. His name is Moonshadow, and this is his story. Reserve your copy now at your local comics shop — you'll be glad you did!

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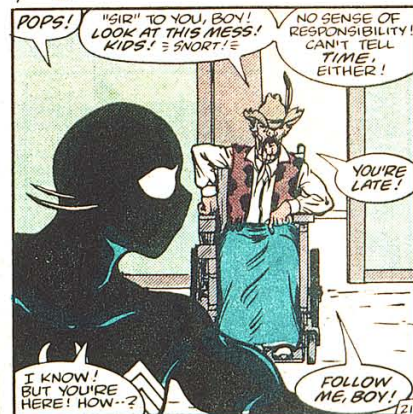
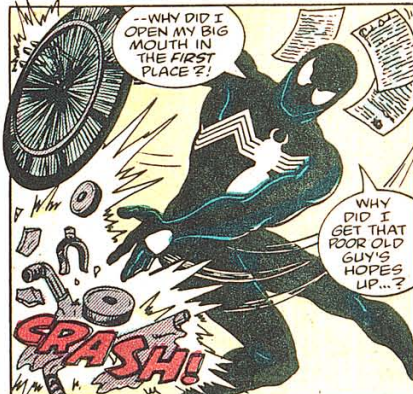
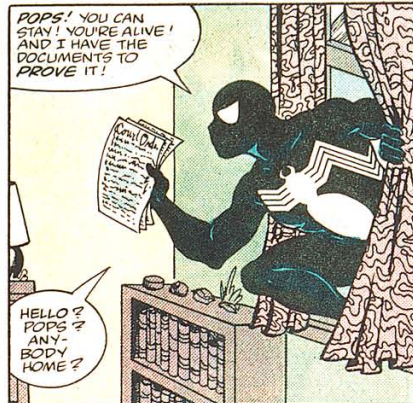
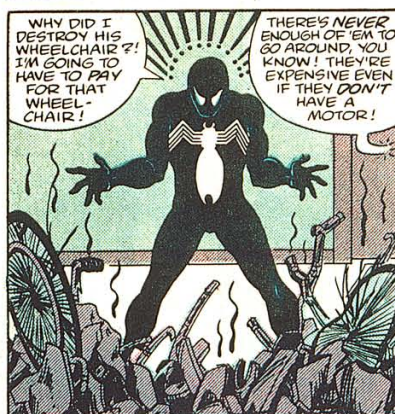
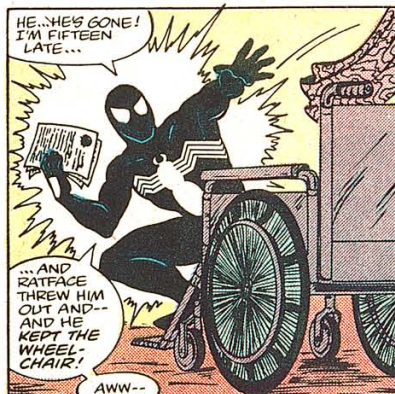
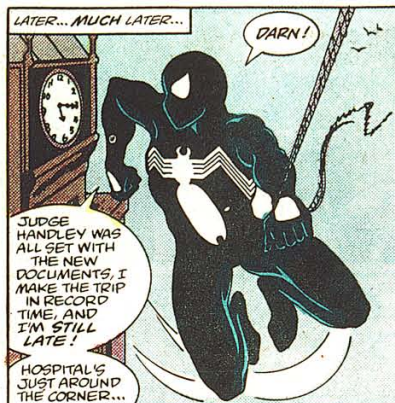
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 - ☐ AVENGERS #255 — Introducing the new regular art team of JOHN BUSCEMA and TOM PALMER!
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 - ☐ MARVEL TALES #175 — Reprinting "When Falls the Meteor," by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO, from *Amazing Spider-Man* #39.
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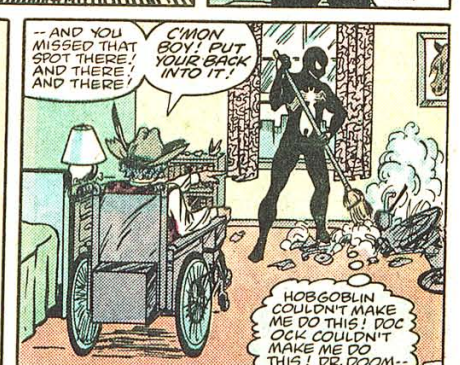
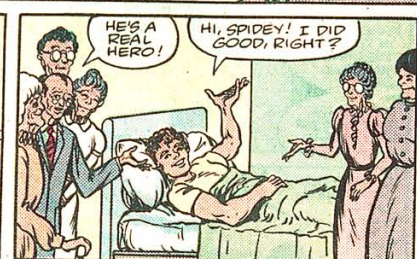
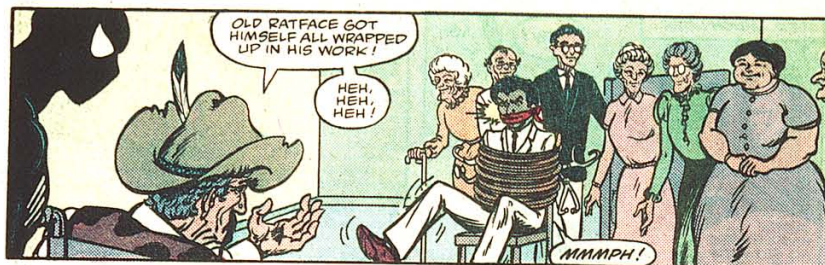
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- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #102
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- ☐ STAR WARS #95
- ☐ THOR #355
- ☐ CLOAK AND DAGGER #1 — Now in their own regular series at last! See Hype Box!
- ☐ ROCKET RACCOON (Limited Series) #1 — Blast off to adventure with the most daring raccoon in the galaxy! See Hype Box!
- ☐ 2010 (Limited Series) #2
- ☐ THE OFFICIAL MARVEL INDEX TO THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #2 — Featuring everything you wanted to know about what happened in *Amazing Spider-Man* #30-50!
- ☐ DOCTOR WHO #8

- MARVEL MAGAZINES
- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #111
 - ☐ MARVEL AGE #28
 - ☐ MARVEL FANFARE #20 — The Thing and the Hulk face off in "The Clash, Part II" Story and pencils by STARLIN, inks by MILGROM!

- EPIC COMICS
- ☐ EPIC ILLUSTRATED #29
 - ☐ MOONSHADOW #1 — A comic like you've never seen before! See Hype Box.
 - ☐ VOID INDIGO #2
 - ☐ GROOD THE WANDERER #3
 - ☐ COYOTE #1
 - ☐ SWORDS OF THE SWASHBUCKLERS #1 — The Swashbucklers have been polishing their swords, making sure that this will be the best epic ever! Don't miss it!

- STAR COMICS
(See Hype Box)
- ☐ PLANET TERRY #2
 - ☐ PETER PORKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-HAM #1 — Now in his own title because you demanded it! This issue, Spider-Ham visits "The Mysterious Island of Ducktor Doom!"
 - ☐ ROYAL ROY #1 — He's a prince of a boy! And he's learning how to rule the very tiny (and very rich) kingdom of Cashelot! It sounds like fun, it is!
 - ☐ MUPPET BABIES #1 — Can you imagine Kermit the Frog and Miss Piggy wearing diapers? See that and more in their fun-filled first issue!
 - ☐ GETALONG GANG #1 — The stars of Saturday morning TV are now starring in their own Star Comic! Montgomery Moose, Zipper Cat and Doty Dog want you to join the Getalong Gang, too!





THE END



THE SPIDER'S WEB

JIM OWSLEY
EDITOR
KEITH WILLIAMS
ASSISTANT EDITOR

SEND ALL LETTERS TO:
Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South,
New York, N.Y. 10016. Please include your name
and address. We will, however, withhold them
upon request.

Dear Danny, Tom and Ron,
Thank you for "The Sims of My Father," one of the finest Spidey tales in many a year. This story sparked reminiscences of the suspenseful Lee-Ditko-Romita Spider years, and evoked memories of Spider-Man #40, "Spidey Saves the Day."
Ron Frenz has proved to be the finest Spider-artist to date, he has captured the Ditko flow, panel layout and posing.
Whoops, I almost forgot to praise Charles Vess for his classic cover painting. Mr. Vess has now proven that he can draw muscles. This emotional, energy-packed cover will go down in Spidey annals as one of the best.
Tom's scripting skills have already surpassed those of Roger Stern, who did a more than creditable job. I might question Spidey's hysteresis in rescuing Liz and MJ so he could get in a few more licks on the Hobgoblin, but I won't. In all sincerity, it was an outstanding script.
By the way, if Spidey does not retain his original costume, I will quit buying this magazine after 18 years of loyal fandom. Sorry man, that's how I feel.
I have no idea who the Hobgoblin is. Do you, Tom?
Until Aunt May gets a mohawk...
Adrian E. Mazar
27 Hill Dr.
Bushnell, IL 61422

Tom knows who Hobby is, Adrian, but if you quit buying Spidey, you may never find out! But seriously, after all the good things you said about our creative team, don't you think it's a little harsh to judge this book

soloely on the basis of which costume Peter decides to wear?
Also, we're glad you liked Charles Vess' cover as much as we did. Judging from the overwhelming positive response we've received, it seems that most of Marveldom assembled feels the same way.
So far all you Marvelites out there whose appetites have been whetted by the covers for AMAZING #261 and WEB #1, we thought we'd clue you in on the fact that the redoubtable Mr. Vess is hard at work on a TALES OF ASGARD Graphic Novel! Yep, it looks like there'll be more than enough of Charlie's stunning work to satisfy everyone!

Dear Tom and Danny,
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #260 was another fine issue; Tom DeFalco has proven to be an unusually sensitive scriptwriter, and a worthy successor to Roger Stern. The deft interplay of subplots is handled as smoothly as I've ever seen, and the Frenz/Rubenstein team is wonderful. The nicest touch is the reinstatement of the round Spider-Man emblem on the splash pages.
However, I do have one concern about the Hobgoblin. This issue, Robbie refers to Pete and Lance Bannon, wondering where they are. This comment overlaps a cut back to Spider-Man's battle with Hobgoblin, answering the question of Peter's whereabouts ironically. The scene change doesn't tell us where Lance is, though — or does it?
Is the irony here meant to suggest that Lance Bannon is secretly the Hobgoblin? Frankly, I hope not. Lance has hitherto been a very realistic character, and besides, from all the indications, the Hobgoblin is a much older man, in his 40's or 50's. I hope that you and Roger Stern have conferred, Tom, so that all clues to the Hobgoblin's identity are uniform. Until the secret is revealed, though, I'll just hope that this was a red herring.
After all, if the Hobgoblin is really Lance Bannon, that spoils my latest guess at Hobby's identity:
What if Peter Parker's father is still alive? Well, it was just an idea. But I guess that riff's been done with Darth Vader. Oh, well...
In closing, let me express my dismay at the impending cancellation of MARVEL TEAM-UP. Who cares if you're replacing it with WEB OF SPIDER-MAN? Where else but TEAM-UP did we get to see people like Jack of Hearts, the White Tiger, the debut of Mockingbird, the debut of Karma, etc? Obviously, you can guest-star heroes in Spidey's other books; nonetheless, TEAM-UP shall be mourned.
Brian Nelson
4401 Lee Highway, Apt. 47
Arlington, VA 22207

Dear Spider-Man:
After reviewing Spidey's state of affairs in ASM and PPTSSM over the last year and a half, I have just one comment... AWESOME! INCREDIBLE! Ooops, sorry, but one word isn't enough! Spidey comics have never been so exciting and realistic! Especially now that he's tangled up in the Hobgoblin and organized crime. This approach was tried back in the Ditko days with the GREEN Goblin, but folks back then wanted super-bad guys, not realism. (I learned that after reviewing the POST OFFICE OF THE PAST columns in MARVEL TALES over the past year). Now that you have combined both into your storylines, you shall forever have this Spider-Man anxiously awaiting each new arrival at the magazine store! And keep surprising us!
Chris Sesomas
University of Miami

Dear Spidey-People,
I have one question: Did Mark Gruenwald model for the cover of #261?
R.D. Zeigwell
Armest, MA

Dear Spider people,
I must say that issue #261 was the best comic I have ever read. Patch things up between Peter and Aunt May already!
Kenneth Kameli
138-20 31st Rd. Apt 1A
Flushing, NY 11354

Dear Spiderfolk,
I hope Harry and Liz's kid is born with no complications. I have read Spider-Man for years, but I have not enjoyed this much suspense or excitement within its pages until recently. The Hobgoblin is a superb villain, even though you have already given away his identity. Keep the Rose's identity hidden for a while, please. I can't wait until Spidey's costume strike!! I assume Peter is also making himself another black and white costume. I'm awaiting an equally nice return of Dr. Octopus next issue. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!
Pierer Cohen
10 Oakland St.
Lexington, MA 02173

Everybody says that we've given away Hobby's identity, but nobody seems to agree just who that identity is.

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